



HR0635

LRB103 39724 ECR 70174 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to recognize the 150th anniversary of
4 Joseph F. Glidden filing his patent for barbed wire; and

5 WHEREAS, Farmer Joseph Glidden, along with hardware
6 merchant Isaac Ellwood and carpenter Jacob Haish, crafted the
7 idea for a barbed wire fence upon witnessing a fence board with
8 projecting barb points at an agricultural fair in September
9 1873; and

10 WHEREAS, Joseph Glidden and his wife, Lucinda,
11 experimented at the Glidden Homestead using a modified coffee
12 mill and a grindstone to create the first practical strand of
13 barbed wire; and

14 WHEREAS, At the age of 61, Joseph Glidden traveled to
15 Chicago to file a patent for his new invention on November 24,
16 1874; and

17 WHEREAS, Joseph Glidden and Isaac Ellwood built the
18 world's first barbed wire factory in 1875; and

19 WHEREAS, Barbed wire played a significant role in settling
20 the American West, where it became popular due to its

1 durability and affordability; and

2 WHEREAS, In 1895, Joseph Glidden, Isaac Ellwood, and Jacob
3 Haish, along with journalist Clinton Rosette, founded what is
4 now Northern Illinois University with part of the land where
5 the idea for barbed wire originated; and

6 WHEREAS, By the time of Joseph Glidden's death, Isaac
7 Ellwood estimated that their factory had produced enough
8 barbed wire to circle the earth 17 times, earning DeKalb the
9 nickname of "The Barb City" to this day; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
11 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we recognize the 150th anniversary of Joseph F. Glidden filing
13 his patent for barbed wire; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the Joseph F. Glidden Homestead and Historical
16 Center as an expression of our esteem and respect.